REMARKS

In this response, no claims have been amended, and no claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-16 and 19-64 remain pending. The Final Office Action issued by the Examiner has been carefully considered by Applicant.

Claims 1-16, 19-64 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chou et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,330,499) and Spaur et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,732,074).

A. Real-Time Processing by Laptop Not Sufficiently Supported by Chou

As Applicant discussed in the response to the last Office Action, Applicant's independent claim 1 recites "the RTIP performing <u>real-time operations</u> and the application processor performing <u>high-level processing</u> functions" (emphasis added). The Examiner's reliance on the laptop mentioned by Chou reaches too far to support an obviousness rejection.

In particular, the Examiner asserts that Chou's laptop provides real-time processing and high-level processing functions, citing Chou at col. 3, lines 63-67. However, Chou here only states that the laptop computer may be used to perform the function of the processor 300. Chou does not describe the types of processing (i.e., real-time or high-level) done either in the laptop or in processor 300. Also, as discussed further below, the argument that the laptop performs the two types of <u>functions</u> does not demonstrate how Chou teaches the use of a real-time <u>processor</u> and an application <u>processor</u>. Nothing in Chou supports that the laptop has two processors.

The Examiner specifically asserts that the type of processing done by the laptop depends on the mode of the function. The cited section of Chou certainly does not discuss

the type of processing (as between real-time and high-level) done on the laptop. In addition, the Examiner has not provided any suggestion or motivation as to how or why the laptop mentioned by Chou would be used for real-time processing along with an application processor as recited by Applicant's claim 1.

Further, Applicant's independent claim 1 was previously amended to recite that "the RTIP couples the application processor to a vehicle bus and to an external network". Applicant believes that the Examiner did not fully respond to this limitation in this current Office Action. After asserting that the laptop does real-time processing, the Examiner has not presented any argument to support a teaching in Chou that the alleged "real-time" laptop couples an application processor to a vehicle bus and to an external network. For example, if the Examiner argues that the "real-time processing" laptop replaces processor 300 in Fig. 3, then it is insufficiently stated what acts as an application processor. If the Examiner argues that the "real-time processing" laptop works with processor 300, Chou's Fig. 3 shows network interface 320 coupled to processor 300 rather than to the laptop. The Examiner does not sufficiently explain how this claim 1 limitation is met by Chou and Spaur.

Chou does not describe "processor 300" as having any separation of components with one processor that performs "real-time operations" and another processor that performs "high-level processing functions", each as recited by Applicant's claim 1. Thus, usage of the laptop instead of or along with processor 300 would merely be another form of the single general processor approach described by Chou. Chou does not suggest any division of processing functions, and does not describe any criteria for making any such division. Further, the secondary reference, Spaur, does not provide any of these missing teachings.

Finally, Applicant's independent claim 56 recites "the RTIP predominantly performing real-time operations and the application processor predominantly performing high-level processing functions, wherein the RTIP is coupled to provide information

received from at least one of the vehicle elements to the application processor" (emphasis added). Chou's Fig. 3 illustrates a client computer device 101 and other components in the vehicle. However, Chou does not describe any predominant allocation of real-time and high-level processing functions between client computer device 101 and any other processor in the vehicle. It simply is not described by Chou, and Applicant respectfully submits that even if, for the sake of argument, the Examiner's laptop assertions above were accepted, a predominating split of processing as recited by claim 56 is not even argued by the Examiner.
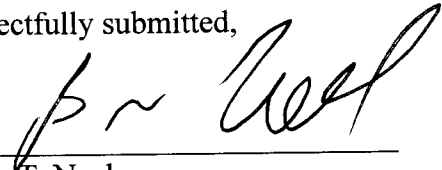
B. Chou's Remote Service Center Not a Gateway Node in the Vehicle

Applicant's independent claim 49 recites that "the gateway node of the vehicle comprises at least one real-time interface processor (RTIP) and at least one application processor, the RTIP performing real-time operations and the application processor performing high-level processing functions" (emphasis added). The Examiner has cited Chou at col. 8, lines 34-51, which describes the operation of the remote service center. The remote service center is not in the vehicle. Thus, any activities of the remote service center relied on by the Examiner will not go to support the presence of real-time and high-level processors of the gateway node of the vehicle. Instead, Chou describes that the remote service center is outside of the vehicle and connected to the vehicle using, for example, a wireless phone (col. 3, lines 15-21).

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of this application and the allowance of all pending claims. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance. Applicant believes that any of the Examiner's other arguments not explicitly discussed above are moot in light of the above arguments, but reserves the right

to later address these other arguments. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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